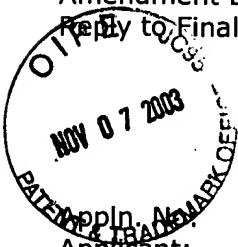


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11-20-03



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: 09/700,474  
Akiyoshi Yamashita  
Filed: February 5, 2001  
Title: METHOD OF CREATING A PLURALITY OF PARTITIONS  
ON REMOVABLE DEVICE  
TC/A.U.: 2186  
Examiner: Woo H. Choi  
Confirmation No.: 5500  
Docket No.: MAT-8048US

**RECEIVED**

NOV 12 2003

Technology Center 2100

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Responsive to the Final Office Action dated August 5, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page \_\_\_\_\_ of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Drawings** begin on page \_\_\_\_\_ of this paper and include an attached replacement sheet(s).

**Amendments to the Abstract** are on page \_\_\_\_\_ of this paper. A clean version of the Abstract is on page \_\_\_\_\_ of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page \_\_\_\_\_ of this paper.